

### 88. Snowshoe Hare F

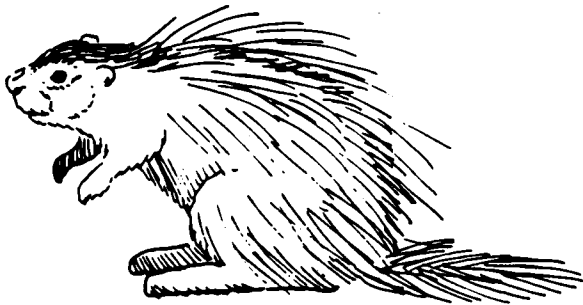
**TRAITS:** Small mammal with long front teeth for clipping twigs; large, long ears; short tail; long hind legs and large hind feet; changes to white in winter.

**HABITAT:** Requires a forest mosaic that includes early successional forest where branches of willows, birch, and aspen are at heights it can reach.

**FOODS:** Buds and twigs of birch, willow, and aspen.

**EATEN BY:** Lynx, goshawks, great horned owls, red fox, coyote.

**"GEE WHIZ":** These animals depend upon microscopic organisms that live in their intestines to produce certain vitamins needed for survival.



### 89. Porcupine F

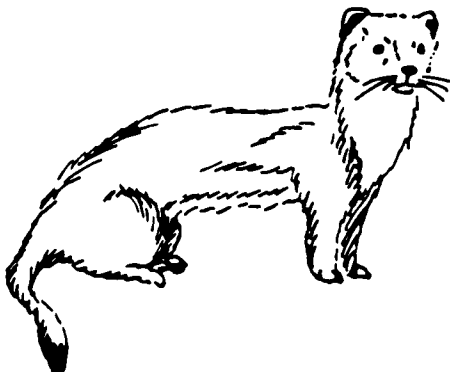
**TRAITS:** Small mammal; large front teeth for gnawing, short legs, back and tail covered with quills.

**HABITAT:** Coniferous forests that include large hollow trees or small caves under rocks or logs that it can use for denning.

**FOODS:** Green vegetation in spring and summer; the inner bark of spruce and birch trees in the winter.

**EATEN BY:** Lynx, coyotes, wolves, wolverine.

**"GEE WHIZ":** The wounds this animal inflicts on tree bark allow fungi, insects, and other small animals to enter trees.



### 90. Ermine (Short-tailed Weasel) \*

**TRAITS:** Small furbearing mammal; sharp teeth, black tip on tail; turns white in winter.

**HABITAT:** Open areas, including early successional stages of boreal forest, wetlands, and tundra where water is available for drinking.

**FOODS:** Voles, shrews, jumping mice, deer mice, and other small mammals are the main foods; birds, insects, and plants are also eaten.

**EATEN BY:** Great horned owls, hawks, red foxes, goshawks.